The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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VOL. 5, NO. 34. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1915. WHOLE NO. 242.

AGITATE!
EDUCATE!
ORGANIZE!

ANTI-STRIKE SCHEME AROUSES TAILORS' IRE

Chicago, Nov. 20.—The Colorado industrial commission, created by the last legislature, is subjected to severe criticism by General Organizer Biggs, of the Journeymen Tailors' union, who writes in the official magazine of that organization, published in this city.

Under the law the Colorado commission has power to suspend strikes and lockouts pending an investigation of the dispute, on the theory that if workers are denied the right to strike and employers are prohibited from enforcing a lockout, the commission's order will allow the aggressive party to the "cool off." The benefits of this system, its friends claim, will offset the denial of the right of workers to quit their employment whenever they see fit.

General Organizer Biggs in assisting Denver tailors in their efforts to better conditions, and the trade union official writes as follows regarding this law and the commission that enforces it:

"This new law and the industrial commission of the state of Colorado has stood like a stone wall between the journey men tailors of Denver and a chance to better their conditions. No injunction, re-enforced by militia, could so effectually keep our efforts at bay. This is the weapon, which has worked out for industrial suppression, so far as the tailors here are concerned. Our employers can stand in line all day in heavy rain to get a chance to deposit a vote to wipe out the law and commissioners.

"We have pleaded in vain for an official hearing. Our official protest was filed. We have pleaded in person, and received promises. At this writing (November 12) nothing has been done, and during our first complaint, we have a promise of an early hearing.

"The attitude exasperates our members, because they know that the bosses are simply out for time, hoping to tire the whole thing off till dull season. In the face of this we know that every merchant tailor's association in the state, and other Biggs reports a number of new members this week.

"Thursday morning Organizer Biggs appeared before the state industrial commission with representatives of the exchange, and the lawyer for the latter moved that the demand placed before the commission some time ago looking to a change in the bill of prices and a signed agreement be quashed, a strange and unusual proceeding. The motion was denied the motion, and set next Monday as the time for further arguments and consideration of the matters in controversy."

INSISTS ON LIVING WAGE.

Washington, Nov. 20.—"Three dollars a week to a working girl is an impossible living wage, and any industry which tries to do considerably better than that has no right to live," declared Miss A. J. Mc-Kelway, secretary of the national child labor committee, in a speech last Sunday evening.

"The old superstition that women work merely for pin money is exploded," he said. "Ninety women in every hundred of them maybe some have to support a family. There is no reason, then, that they should be denied a living wage, and if they are so denied they are thrown on their parents, the community or the charities for support.

"The lesson should be inculcated into the employing class that no industry is fit to survive that does not pay a living wage."

LAWS CAN'T REPLACE UNIONISM.

Lafayette, Ind., Nov. 20.—In the current issue of the Retail Clerks' International Protective association magazine, Editor Conway, in discussing the Utah minimum wage law, says:

"In one of the states where the minimum wage law for women is now in effect one of our affiliated locals recently returned their charter with the statement that they no longer had need of the union, as the state had enacted laws sufficient for the protection of the women wage earners. Within three months time, however, this same organization sought reaffiliation, as without organization they found themselves unable to individually to collect the minimum wage which the laws of that state said rightfully belonged to them, and should be paid."

PREPARING FOR "BABY WEEK."

Washington, Nov. 20.—The children's bureau of the United States department of labor has issued a bulletin entitled "Child Welfare Exhibits," for the benefit of those who expect to observe the forthcoming "baby week" or child welfare, or those who are planning a baby show, a children's health conference or any kind of children's exhibit. The bulletin is full of suggestions for communities of all sizes and contains many valuable hints on practical experience in successful work. Included also is a complete list of all child-welfare exhibits conducted by state departments. Single copies of the bulletin may be had without cost.

$4 MINIMUM NEXT YEAR.

Quincy, Mass., Nov. 20.—The Granite Cutters' Journal calls attention to the fact "that after the springtime of 1916 the minimum wage rate for members of the Granite Cutters' union (the old International association) will be not less than $4 per day of eight hours, and that agreements with five or six hours time instead of four on Saturdays will be changed not later than the above date to four working hours on Saturday."

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON DEAD.

Tuskegee, Ala., Nov. 20.—Booker T. Washington, recognized generally as the first negro of America, died at this place last Sunday. Starting with a meagre academic education, he emphasized the need for young negroes being fitted for agricultural pursuits and domestic science.

C. & O. RAISES WAGES.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Nov. 20.—A. F. of L. Organizer Flynn has notified Secretary Frank Morrison that in accordance with the motive power department of the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad has granted in securing wage increases of 1 cent an hour for all shop laborers on that system.

ATTACKING MINERS' COUNSEL.

Trinidad, Col., Nov. 20.—Judge Wiley of Alamosa, has dismissed the charges of perjury against H. N. Hawkins and F. W. Clarke, counsel for the United Mine Workers' union, growing out of an affidavit of Grover Hall, a juror in the trial of John R. Lawson. In his affidavit Hall declared that he stood for the acquittal of Lawson until coercive measures were taken by the court bailiff, who told him his (Hall's) wife was sick. The juror swore that he was not permitted to visit his home, and that he, together with the other jurors, were given food during our one entire day. Under these circumstances, Hall swore his mental condition was such that he voted for conviction that he might see his wife. Hall also declared the bailiff told the jurors Judge Hilliyer gave orders that they could not eat until they had reached a decision. This affidavit was used by counsel for the mine workers in their fight to secure the supreme court order prohibiting Judge Hilliyer from presiding in future cases growing out of the coal miners' strike.

State Attorney General Farrar, who is conducting the fight against the mine workers, realizes the harmful effect the Hall affidavit has had on his case, and in his attempt to discredit it, filed charges against the workers' attorneys.

Judge Hilliyer has dismissed these attorneys from the charge of improper conduct. Farrar filed a similar complaint along different lines.

SAFETY ON SHIPS EXPANDS.

San Francisco, Nov. 20.—Editor Scharrenburg of the Coast Seamen's Journal has made a study of the safety first rules on vessels, now enforced by the Canadian government.

"The Canadian Pacific railway has issued a booklet in which the safety-first rules are printed," he writes. "Twelve years ago we were working 16 hours a day for $30 a week."

Ithaca, N. Y., secures $16 a week this year and $17 next year. The secretary writes: "Twelve years ago we were working 16 hours a day for $30 a week."

Decatur, Ill., raises wages 2 cents an hour for the next two years and an additional 2 cents for the third and fourth year.

Syracuse, N. Y., increases wages of job printers $1.50 a week.

ACCUSED OF PADRONE METHODS.

Hammond, Ind., Nov. 20.—In Judge Reiland's court at Indiana Harbor a score of affidavits, filed by Hungarian laborers, charge that the Inland steel or East Chicago with operating an employment agency illegally. On the eve before submitted, accused was bound over to the superior court for trial. Somehow has managed to secure the Republic Iron and Steel company plant for a number of years, and it is charged that he compelled laborers to pay him a fee of $5.50 and $6, and to force subsequent payments of various amounts or pay day with threats of discharge. It is claimed these workers have been mulcted of thousands of dollars.

TEACHERS LOSE LONG FIGHT.

Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 20.—The state supreme court has upheld the decision of the Toledo court of appeals that superintendent Frederick of the Cleveland public schools has the right to discharge Teachers who belong to the Grade Teachers' club, an organization affiliated to the Cleveland federation of labor. The Cleveland board of education passed an anti-union rule, about two years ago. Superintendent Frederick was enjoined by Judge Neff from enforcing the order, and was later found guilty of contempt and sentenced to be imprisoned and pay a fine of $500. The case has been before the supreme court twice.

MAY LEAVE SEAT BEFORE STOP.

Topeka, Kan., Nov. 20.—The state supreme court has ruled that a passenger is not guilty of contributory negligence if he is injured while standing on the rear platform of an interurban car. The company claims that the passenger should remain in his seat, but it was shown that the plaintiff was waiting for the car to stop while nearing a station.

UPHOLD EIGHT-HOUR LAW.

Washington, Nov. 20.—The District of Columbia court of appeals has refused to review the decision of a lower court in the case of Gompers vs. Bucks, fined for violating the District women's eight-hour law, passed by the last congress.

GEN. CROZIER'S "EFFICIENCY" BUG

By President Gompers, in "American Federationist."

Gen. William Crozier, chief of ordnance, United States army, has begun a campaign for the restoration of the Taylor system in the United States arsenals. Recently, in Philadelphia, before a Y. M. C. A. audience which was made up of factory managers, superintendents, engineers and accountants, he made an attack upon the organized workers, condemning them because the federal appropriation bill forbade the use of that money for the maintenance of so-called "scientific management" schemes.

In all fairness Gen. Crozier ought to present his views to an audience of workers. Should he be willing to deliver his lecture we feel sure organized labor would furnish him with an appreciative audience who, even though they differ with him, would treat him with the respect due his office.

Perhaps one of the worst tendencies of the "scientific management" scheme is that toward specialization. The systems are based upon the theory that promotes general specialization in all industries. And it need be stated here that specialization in industry is different to specialization in the professions. In the latter, specialization means a general knowledge of all branches of the profession and the mastership of a particular branch. In industry the specialization of the workers means that the workers are assigned constantly to the work to do thousands of times over and over again each and every day and without the slightest knowledge of any other part of the trade or industry.

"Scientific management" makes ideals of workmanship and craftsmanship impossible. It is away from ideals of democracy. It serves to promote only a few, and a few selected at the expense of the many. It forces and compels the unwitting to be traitors to humanity in industry and democracy in society. Its spirit, its methods and its purposes are hostile to the spirit of collective bargaining. It has nothing in common with that effort of the workers to associate themselves and to work out their best interests. From all sources comes confirmation of the attitude of trade unionists toward "scientific management."

Undoubtedly, one of the purposes of this specialization is to make the workers more dependent. As their training is narrow, they fit into few places and are less adaptable. This condition is reflected in the spirit of the men.

In one part of his address, speaking of the men employed in the arsenals, Gen. Crozier said: "The men do not wish to strike when they know that their places can be filled." No more truthful and cynical utterance could be made. The same truism and cynicism could be applied to any people suffering from tyranny and injustice in any form. If the workers organize, their purpose they have in making any effort to secure relief from wrongs and injustice and the attainment of freedom, can be thwarted, it takes the heart out of them. That is just what workers would be willing to strike for their rights as it is in other fields of human aspirations.

Two committees of congress have investigated the subject of "scientific management" and particularly the Taylor system as it existed in the United States arsenals. On the first committee served two men who are now members of President Wilson's cabinet—Secretary of Labor Wilson and Secretary of Commerce Redfield. That committee made a report upon the Taylor system condemning principles upon which it was based and the effects that it had upon the workmen. One statement from their report is in itself sufficient to discredit the entire scheme:

"By the stop-watch you may be able to determine the time in which a piece of work can be done, but you do not thereby alone determine the length of time in which it ought to be done.

"The claim that the operations of any machine can be made with a reasonable degree of accuracy, because all of the elements can be taken into consideration in making the computation, a machine is an inanimate thing—it has no life, no brain, no sentiment, and no place in the social order. With a workman it is different. He is a living, moving, sentient, social being; he is entitled to all the rights, duties, opportunities, and respectful consideration given to other men.

"He would be less than a man if he did not resent the inference that he is a machine which deals with him in the same way as a beast of burden or an inanimate machine."

PRINTERS MAKE GAINS.

Indianapolis, Nov. 20.—Secretary-Treasurer Hays, of the International Typographical union, announces the following recent gains:

Dayton, Ohio, three years' contract, with $22.50 per week for day work the first year; $23.50 the second year, and $24 the third year. The night rate is $25.50 first year; $26.50 second, and $27 third. The union also secures control of apprentices with a 5-year term.

Sapulpa, Okla., increases wages $2 per week for foremen, operators and floormen, and $2.50 for machinist.

Sioux City, Iowa, board of arbitration has ruled that after June 1, next year, wages shall be increased $1 a week for a period of two years.

Perth Amboy, N. J., secures three-year contract with an increase of 50 cents per week each year.

Ithaca, N. Y., secures $16 a week this year and $17 next year. The secretary writes: "Twelve years ago we were working 16 hours a day for $30 a week."

Syracuse, N. Y., increases wages of job printers $1.50 a week.

WILL CUT LIABILITY RATES

Harrisburg, Pa., Nov. 20.—The state insurance fund, which manages the state workmen's compensation insurance, has officially announced that rates will be 10 per cent less than the insurance rate manual.

The manual, which will be the standard for private concerns, has not been published, but the state declared that regardless of these figures, it will cut them 10 per cent.

Officers of the state insurance fund say they can reduce rates 10 per cent below those charged by private concerns because the state will not have to pay on agents' commissions or dividends for stockholders.

There is also the advantage to the subscribers in the state fund," say officers, "that there will be no contingent liability to assessments. The purpose of the act was to make the payment of the premium the sole liability to subscribers, and no assessments will be levied in any case, as there is not one word in the act creating the liability of subscribers for any or by implication suggests the right of assessments."

The 10 per cent reduction means that the state fund will not remain inactive while hostile manufacturers and private compensation companies war against the compensation act. Instead, the state officials propose showing manufacturers it is safer and more economical to insure with the fund.

FARMERS FAVOR RESTRICTION

San Francisco, Nov. 20.—In an address to the A. F. of L. convention, H. H. Peters, fraternal delegate from the farmers' national conference, told the unionists of the agreement between agriculturists in restriction of immigration and strict exclusion of Chinese and Japanese coolie labor because "if the doors of the Pacific are thrown open white men will be driven from the farms." Other planks favored by the farmers, said the speaker, include parcel post, rural credits and direct legislation.

FREIGHT HANDLERS RETURN.

Boston, Nov. 20.—Freight handlers on the Boston & Albany and the Boston & Maine railroads have returned to work after several satisfactory conferences with officials. All attempts to adjust differences between freight handlers and the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad have failed. The Boston & Maine freight handlers struck Oct. 21 for better working conditions. Later the other roads became involved.

PLUMBERS' CONTRACT SIGNED.

Dallas, Tex., Nov. 20.—Plumbers and steamfitters have signed an agreement with the Master Plumbers' association which is declared to establish higher standards than heretofore in the relations between the two parties. The workers have secured several betterments in their working conditions.

STEEL CABS PROTECT LIFE.

Salida, Col., Nov. 20.—Two Pullmans and a dining car of a Denver and Rio Grande passenger train rolled down a 100-foot embankment in the Royal Gorge, Arkansas river. Twenty persons were slightly injured, it is stated. The steel cars saved scores from death.

A. F. OF L. REFERRED TO AS "DEMOCRACY'S FIRING LINE"

Washington, Nov. 20.—The Bulletin of this city, in an editorial on the American Federation of Labor, refers to this organization as "Democracy's Firing Line," and says:

"The American Federation of Labor has all of the virtues and most of the defects which go with a position on the firing line of democratic progress. It is partly a bread-and-butter organization, striving for an immediate increase in the welfare of its members, and it is partly a revolutionary movement, aiming at the conquest by the workers of the supreme power to which their numbers and their services entitle them. It contains as many conflicting opinions and policies as two million averages men can comfortably hold. It is like any chance grouping of two million men and women, part idealism, part materialism, part wisdom, part unwisdom. It is weakened by jealousy, ambition and selfishness, and it is strengthened by being, in the last analysis, essentially right.

"The first thing to recognize in the labor-union movement is that it is a natural product of industrial conditions operating upon the ordinary man. The same industrial forces which created the capitalist and the employer created the labor organization. Labor unions do not yet cover the whole field of industry, as they ought to do, but so far as they go they maintain a kind of balance of power. They are a competitive theory of industry this generation has set against that of last generation, an advance over the former system of setting class against class.

"The interests of labor and capital are not identical. The careful organization of the one against the other is sufficient proof of a conflict of interests. The labor movement represents an encroachment upon the freedom, and ultimately upon the profits, of capital; just as the capitalistic movement, unchecked, is a movement upon the freedom and well-being of labor. But the two do not prevent them from having common interests, chief among which is the interest each has in maintaining industry. Nor should it prevent them from understanding that such antagonism as exists between them is largely the result of accidents of birth and fortune. Each is composed largely of decent men, concerned in political campaigns.

"In securing the passage of just laws it has done much already. Its central fight is the fight, not alone of the working people of today, but of all persons, capitalists or laborers, rich or poor, union or anti-union, who plan to bring children into the world, and want a better and more democratic world in which to leave them."

WHEELING BUTCHERS STRIKE.

Wheeling, W. Va., Nov. 20.—About 250 members of the Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen are on a strike order to enforce a 10 per cent wage increase. Employers agreeing about 150 butchers have signed the scale.

The just demand of these workers is known by Editor Gompers of the Wheeling Majority, who says:

"To escape pneumonia they have to wear boots at the wet stools that formerly cost $3.25 and wore six months, now cost $5 and wear three months. The meat inspection system has worked a hardship upon the men in that it has caused them to have more changes of working clothing without extra compensation. All have to provide extra clothing for the week's work, some of them several times a day. In the same day men will work in the cold storage room for a time with a temperature of 32 degrees, wearing several thicknesses of clothing, and then go to work at work so hot that they must strip. Between changing clothes and the consequent cost of paying more to work and live, they are justified in asking the small increase they have asked, which will now from $2 to $3 for nine hours. Few get $3 in the packing houses."

MUST PAY PREVAILING RATES.

New York, Nov. 20.—Painters' union No. 9, through their attorney, has succeeded in having the city hold up several contracts awarded to a contracting firm that painted public school buildings. The law requires that prevailing wages be paid to men employed on municipal work. The firm violated this statute and with many others has been compelled to pay the attorneys. Because of the precedent it has established, the decision is considered a far-reaching one.

TAILORS INCREASE WAGES.

New Haven, Conn., Nov. 20.—Members of the Journeymen Tailors' union, employed in the bushelling department of the large shops here, have been granted wage increases as follows: Pressmen, $18 and up; former rates were $16 a week. Tailors, $16 and up; former rates were $12, $13, and $14 a week. Female helpers, $10 and up; former rates were $8 and $9. This union is nearly 100 per cent organized.

AN OBSERVING IOWA EDITOR.

Des Moines, Iowa, Nov. 20.—Discussing the burning of workers in New York fire traps, the editor of the Register and Leader says:

"It would be too great an imposition upon the owners of mills and factories to expect them to safeguard the lives of workers. Property before lives is the accepted doctrine, and not in New York alone."

UNIONISTS AID THE BLIND.

Chicago, Nov. 20.—Through the efforts of the Broom Makers' union state authorities have taken charge of blind broom makers at the Illinois industrial home. Under the new arrangement they will make one dozen brooms per day less and receive the same wages they formerly did.

WAITRESSES DEMAND MORE.

Boston, Nov. 20.—Waitresses' union protests against a wage scale that forces them to depend on tips for an existence. A demand for higher wages will be made on employers. The union will continue its organizing campaign that success may be assured.

STATE TO URGE "SAFETY FIRST."

Sacramento, Cal., Nov. 20.—The state industrial accidents commission has issued a series of "catchy" phrases intended to impress upon both employers and employes the necessity for "safety first" in industry. In a bulletin just issued, the commission says:

"Don't kid about safety—you may be the goat.

"There are thousands of ways to lose your fingers—keep them.

"Carelessness spells safety last."

The commission has the power to draft and enforce safety laws. Joint boards, consisting of employers and employes, are assisting the commission in this work, and a united effort is being made to reduce the number of industrial accidents and fatalities in this state. General safety orders already agreed to provide for the safeguarding of gears, belts, set screws, sprockets, flywheels, grinding wheels, ladders, stairways, platforms and runways, swinging doors, passages, keys and key seats, floor openings, hoistways, conveyors and many other sources of danger which are common throughout the industrial world.

After the first of the year employers will be obliged to comply with the regulations for the protection of their employes, and the employes themselves will be under obligations to study and practice co-operate in the prevention of accidents.

CHILDREN'S LAWS OF 1915.

Washington, Nov. 20.—Forty-five state and territorial legislatures met since the congress of the United States in 1915 passed laws affecting children, according to the children's bureau of the United States department of labor, which has just completed its survey of such legislation during the current year. Special reference is made to the impressive bulk of children's laws and to the number of commissions appointed to study and prepare bills for future legislation.

A few of the 45 states made notable advances. Alabama, for example, whose legislature meets only once in four years, established a new child labor law, a compulsory school attendance law, an excellent desertion and nonsupport law and a state-wide pension law. Florida remodelled its treatment of juvenile delinquents, recognized the principle of compulsion, passed a mothers' pension, the model vital statistics law, and appointed two of the state commissions already reported on. Kansas established an industrial commission to regulate hours, wages and conditions of work for women and minors, and a division of child hygiene in the state board of health; it also enacted a mothers' pension law and a model pension law. New Jersey and Wyoming passed comprehensive acts relating to the care of dependent children. Pennsylvania carefully drafted laws relating to child labor and vocational education.

WHY NEW YORK VOTED "NO."

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 20.—William Marion Reedy, in Reedy's Mirror, gives these reasons for the defeat of New York's constitution at the recent election:

"A lot of highbrows, dazed by the defeat of the constitution at the election for New York, are wondering why it happened. There's no wonder about it. The constitution was defeated because it ended because its supposed progressive provisions gave the people no direct vote in government. Its home rule for cities was a fake. It removed taxation entirely from all anything like popular control, and it put the voter no power to check the growth of the privileged interests. The document was not definite in its provisions as to important matter. And it left everything too wide open to judicial interpretation. No concession was made to the principle of direct legislation. Wherever the people had any power under the instrument the power was difficult to exercise and could be nullified after exercise. The new constitution was defeated because it was an attempt to make people stand still in a moving universe."

OKLAHOMA UNIONISTS ALERT.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Nov. 20.—Acting upon the special report of governor the state legislature will be called early next January, officers of the state federation of labor have issued a warning to Oklahoma unionists to guard against convict labor laws amendments. State Secretary Hall declared, recently, the unorganized workers in an effort to emulate organized labor, have become solitary hands. It is now claimed that the law is to be amended on the theory that labor's hands are tied. An American who "make this convict-operated mine a model for others to follow."

FIRST AID EFFICIENCY.

Washington, Nov. 20.—President Wilson has appointed a board of first aid standardization, in compliance with a request made by the conference of American surgeons on first aid, held in this city last summer. It is proposed to standardize first aid packages and equipment of all sorts, means of transporting and handling wounded and first aid instruction among civilians, particularly those allied with industrial plants.

VALUE OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Des Moines, Iowa, Nov. 20.—"The development of the state industrially, and the home of its citizens intellectually and spiritually, depends upon education of the child," is the statement issued by the state superintendent of Public Instruction Deyoe before the Iowa State Teachers' association.

Upon the conference of educators upon the broad principles of the public school system. It is the one institution where all meet on common ground."

TO HONOR MERGENTHALER.

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R. R. CLERKS' STRIKE OFF.

Detroit, Nov. 20.—The strike of Michigan Central railroad clerks has been settled. Federal and state conciliators assisted the interested parties in reaching an agreement. The strike was called on a time limit basis of demands, and it is stated that the strikers have made substantial gains.

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FT. WAYNE STRIKE CASE THROWN OUT OF COURT

Indianapolis, Nov. 20.—Judge Anderson of the federal court has thrown the so-called "Ft. Wayne strikes case" out of court, on the ground that the case should be heard by a state court.

The proceedings were started by a Philadelphia trust company which holds bonds of the Ft. Wayne and Northern Indiana traction company, whose motormen and conductors are striking to enforce their right to organize. The street car company also conducts a lighting plant in competition with the Ft. Wayne municipal lighting plant. To show their sympathy for the strikers, citizens who had formerly patronized the company's plant, began patronizing the municipal plant, and the eastern trust company asked Judge Anderson to issue an injunction against Mayor Bossy and other Ft. Wayne officials, who were charged with conspiring to injure the business of the company and make payment on bonds impossible.

Judge Anderson has dismissed the plea on the ground that the street car company, which was not made a party to the suit, had both a necessary and proper party to the bill of complaint. This means that the case, if it is tried again, must be tried in a state court. Judge Hosey charges that the injunction proceedings was an attempt to put the Ft. Wayne plant out of business. He said:

"We have had nothing to do with the real cause, the street car strike, further than to make an appeal to the company and to the strikers.

"We have had nothing to do with the real cause, the street car strike, further than to make an appeal to the company and to the strikers.

Recently the company asked the mayor to [illegible] point special police to protect its property and strikebreakers from "possible" violence. The city official answered that as the company had refused to arbitrate and to study and prepare a policy, he did not favor using the public's money as requested, and that the company could pay for its own police service, as provided by law.

ELECTRICAL AGE IS NEXT.

Chicago, Nov. 20.—Electricity is changing the face of the earth, and the home, just as radically as steam changed it, declared Dr. Steinmetz, electrical engineer, in an address here recently.

"Steam built up our great cities with their congestion and slums. Electricity will break them down and spread the population evenly over the continent, because electricity can be transmitted anywhere where simple mechanical means. Steam must be used where generated, but where there is a large labor supply," said Dr. Steinmetz.

"With full electrical development, the labor supply will be the right at the factory door. It can be moved cheaply and quickly morning and evening. There will be no necessity to bring people to where the power can be produced the cheapest, as in the steam factory, but power can be carried to the people over the wires.

"The factories will then go where the land is cheapest. Electricity will run errands in the home.

"I am afraid that is standing in the way. But the high cost is due to the limited use of the electrical motor rather than to the cost of electricity. It is as simple as an alarm clock and should and would be as cheap if it were used generally. It is a question of cheap distribution. The more we use the lower the cost. There is nothing, however, that will supplant steam and hand power, just as steam once supplanted hand power."

HOW TO SAVE BABIES' LIVES

Philadelphia, Nov. 20.—It is easy to check infant mortality—raise the wages of fathers, was the advice of Sherman C. Kingsley of Chicago before the American Association for Study and Prevention of Infant Mortality.

While other speakers advanced various theories, the Chicago man submitted the thought:

"It is a fundamental truth it is useless to tell a poor mother how to give her baby proper care when the home and material conditions are such that the child's father can earn a living wage. Life and health are conserved when it is at its best for communities in general. Figures show that babies whose families live in homes above the line of the poor survive of those who live in four, and that the infant mortality is less than one-half when $10 a week has about half the chance of life one whose father earns twice that sum."

RUBBER STRIKE SETTLED.

Trenton, N. J., Nov. 20.—The strike against the Essex rubber plant has been settled, through the efforts of federal conciliators. The workers are members of the Soft Rubber Workers' union, affiliated to the American Federation of Labor. Unbearable working conditions and low wages was responsible for the walkout. The company has agreed to abolish docking and fining systems and guarantees a minimum wage for all employes, whether by day or piece work. There will be no discrimination because of union membership, and the right of appeal to adjust grievances is recognized by the management.

JURISDICTION DISPUTES.

Sydney, New South Wales, Nov. 20.—Australian workers call their jurisdiction disputes overlapping, and this question was the subject of an important conference called by the Illawarra Labor Council. The conference was composed of the Sydney Labor Council it was voted that:

"This council is opposed to any form of compulsory service of life, health and limb that does not, first of all, bring wealth under conscription."

GLASS BOTTLE OFFICIAL DEAD.

Toledo, Nov. 20.—William Launer, secretary of the Glass Bottle Blowers' association, is dead, as the result of a fall. Launer was elected secretary of the Glass Bottle blowers in 1901 and held that office continuously ever since.

WOULD ENJOIN STRIKERS.

Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 20.—The Dunlap Manufacturing company and the Modern Tool Die and Machine company have filed petitions in common pleas court for an injunction against striking machinists. The plaintiffs assure the court that they have employed Gutenberg agency "to injure the business of the companies."

"CONSCRIPT WEALTH FIRST."

Sydney, New South Wales, Nov. 20.—Australian trade unionists do not favor conscription of men for the European war, but they do favor conscription of wealth. The Sydney Labor Council it was voted that:

"This council is opposed to any form of compulsory service of life, health and limb that does not, first of all, bring wealth under conscription."

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE!
EDUCATE!
ORGANIZE!

ANTI-STRIKE SCHEME AROUSES TAILORS' IRE

Chicago, Nov. 20.—The Colorado industrial commission, created by the last legislature, is subjected to severe criticism by General Organizer Biggs, of the Journeymen Tailors' union, who writes in the official magazine of that organization, published in this city.

Under the law the Colorado commission has power to suspend strikes and lockouts pending an investigation of the dispute, on the theory that if workers are denied the right to strike and employers are prohibited from enforcing a lockout, the commission's order will allow the aggressive party to the "cool off." The benefits of this system, its friends claim, will offset the denial of the right of workers to quit their employment whenever they see fit.

General Organizer Biggs in assisting Denver tailors in their efforts to better conditions, and the trade union official writes as follows regarding this law and the commission that enforces it:

"This new law and the industrial commission of the state of Colorado has stood like a stone wall between the journey men tailors of Denver and a chance to better their conditions. No injunction, re-enforced by militia, could so effectually keep our efforts at bay. This is the weapon, which has worked out for industrial suppression, so far as the tailors here are concerned. Our employers can stand in line all day in heavy rain to get a chance to deposit a vote to wipe out the law and commissioners.

"We have pleaded in vain for an official hearing. Our official protest was filed. We have pleaded in person, and received promises. At this writing (November 12) nothing has been done, and during our first complaint, we have a promise of an early hearing.

"The attitude exasperates our members, because they know that the bosses are simply out for time, hoping to tire the whole thing off till dull season. In the face of this we know that every merchant tailor's association in the state, and other Biggs reports a number of new members this week.

"Thursday morning Organizer Biggs appeared before the state industrial commission with representatives of the exchange, and the lawyer for the latter moved that the demand placed before the commission some time ago looking to a change in the bill of prices and a signed agreement be quashed, a strange and unusual proceeding. The motion was denied the motion, and set next Monday as the time for further arguments and consideration of the matters in controversy."

INSISTS ON LIVING WAGE.

Washington, Nov. 20.—"Three dollars a week to a working girl is an impossible living wage, and any industry which tries to do considerably better than that has no right to live," declared Miss A. J. Mc-Kelway, secretary of the national child labor committee, in a speech last Sunday evening.

"The old superstition that women work merely for pin money is exploded," he said. "Ninety women in every hundred of them maybe some have to support a family. There is no reason, then, that they should be denied a living wage, and if they are so denied they are thrown on their parents, the community or the charities for support.

"The lesson should be inculcated into the employing class that no industry is fit to survive that does not pay a living wage."

LAWS CAN'T REPLACE UNIONISM.

Lafayette, Ind., Nov. 20.—In the current issue of the Retail Clerks' International Protective association magazine, Editor Conway, in discussing the Utah minimum wage law, says:

"In one of the states where the minimum wage law for women is now in effect one of our affiliated locals recently returned their charter with the statement that they no longer had need of the union, as the state had enacted laws sufficient for the protection of the women wage earners. Within three months time, however, this same organization sought reaffiliation, as without organization they found themselves unable to individually to collect the minimum wage which the laws of that state said rightfully belonged to them, and should be paid."

PREPARING FOR "BABY WEEK."

Washington, Nov. 20.—The children's bureau of the United States department of labor has issued a bulletin entitled "Child Welfare Exhibits," for the benefit of those who expect to observe the forthcoming "baby week" or child welfare, or those who are planning a baby show, a children's health conference or any kind of children's exhibit. The bulletin is full of suggestions for communities of all sizes and contains many valuable hints on practical experience in successful work. Included also is a complete list of all child-welfare exhibits conducted by state departments. Single copies of the bulletin may be had without cost.

$4 MINIMUM NEXT YEAR.

Quincy, Mass., Nov. 20.—The Granite Cutters' Journal calls attention to the fact "that after the springtime of 1916 the minimum wage rate for members of the Granite Cutters' union (the old International association) will be not less than $4 per day of eight hours, and that agreements with five or six hours time instead of four on Saturdays will be changed not later than the above date to four working hours on Saturday."

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON DEAD.

Tuskegee, Ala., Nov. 20.—Booker T. Washington, recognized generally as the first negro of America, died at this place last Sunday. Starting with a meagre academic education, he emphasized the need for young negroes being fitted for agricultural pursuits and domestic science.

C. & O. RAISES WAGES.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Nov. 20.—A. F. of L. Organizer Flynn has notified Secretary Frank Morrison that in accordance with the motive power department of the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad has granted in securing wage increases of 1 cent an hour for all shop laborers on that system.

ATTACKING MINERS' COUNSEL.

Trinidad, Col., Nov. 20.—Judge Wiley of Alamosa, has dismissed the charges of perjury against H. N. Hawkins and F. W. Clarke, counsel for the United Mine Workers' union, growing out of an affidavit of Grover Hall, a juror in the trial of John R. Lawson. In his affidavit Hall declared that he stood for the acquittal of Lawson until coercive measures were taken by the court bailiff, who told him his (Hall's) wife was sick. The juror swore that he was not permitted to visit his home, and that he, together with the other jurors, were given food during our one entire day. Under these circumstances, Hall swore his mental condition was such that he voted for conviction that he might see his wife. Hall also declared the bailiff told the jurors Judge Hilliyer gave orders that they could not eat until they had reached a decision. This affidavit was used by counsel for the mine workers in their fight to secure the supreme court order prohibiting Judge Hilliyer from presiding in future cases growing out of the coal miners' strike.

State Attorney General Farrar, who is conducting the fight against the mine workers, realizes the harmful effect the Hall affidavit has had on his case, and in his attempt to discredit it, filed charges against the workers' attorneys.

Judge Hilliyer has dismissed these attorneys from the charge of improper conduct. Farrar filed a similar complaint along different lines.

SAFETY ON SHIPS EXPANDS.

San Francisco, Nov. 20.—Editor Scharrenburg of the Coast Seamen's Journal has made a study of the safety first rules on vessels, now enforced by the Canadian government.

"The Canadian Pacific railway has issued a booklet in which the safety-first rules are printed," he writes. "Twelve years ago we were working 16 hours a day for $30 a week."

Ithaca, N. Y., secures $16 a week this year and $17 next year. The secretary writes: "Twelve years ago we were working 16 hours a day for $30 a week."

Decatur, Ill., raises wages 2 cents an hour for the next two years and an additional 2 cents for the third and fourth year.

Syracuse, N. Y., increases wages of job printers $1.50 a week.

ACCUSED OF PADRONE METHODS.

Hammond, Ind., Nov. 20.—In Judge Reiland's court at Indiana Harbor a score of affidavits, filed by Hungarian laborers, charge that the Inland steel or East Chicago with operating an employment agency illegally. On the eve before submitted, accused was bound over to the superior court for trial. Somehow has managed to secure the Republic Iron and Steel company plant for a number of years, and it is charged that he compelled laborers to pay him a fee of $5.50 and $6, and to force subsequent payments of various amounts or pay day with threats of discharge. It is claimed these workers have been mulcted of thousands of dollars.

TEACHERS LOSE LONG FIGHT.

Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 20.—The state supreme court has upheld the decision of the Toledo court of appeals that superintendent Frederick of the Cleveland public schools has the right to discharge Teachers who belong to the Grade Teachers' club, an organization affiliated to the Cleveland federation of labor. The Cleveland board of education passed an anti-union rule, about two years ago. Superintendent Frederick was enjoined by Judge Neff from enforcing the order, and was later found guilty of contempt and sentenced to be imprisoned and pay a fine of $500. The case has been before the supreme court twice.

MAY LEAVE SEAT BEFORE STOP.

Topeka, Kan., Nov. 20.—The state supreme court has ruled that a passenger is not guilty of contributory negligence if he is injured while standing on the rear platform of an interurban car. The company claims that the passenger should remain in his seat, but it was shown that the plaintiff was waiting for the car to stop while nearing a station.

UPHOLD EIGHT-HOUR LAW.

Washington, Nov. 20.—The District of Columbia court of appeals has refused to review the decision of a lower court in the case of Gompers vs. Bucks, fined for violating the District women's eight-hour law, passed by the last congress.

GEN. CROZIER'S "EFFICIENCY" BUG

By President Gompers, in "American Federationist."

Gen. William Crozier, chief of ordnance, United States army, has begun a campaign for the restoration of the Taylor system in the United States arsenals. Recently, in Philadelphia, before a Y. M. C. A. audience which was made up of factory managers, superintendents, engineers and accountants, he made an attack upon the organized workers, condemning them because the federal appropriation bill forbade the use of that money for the maintenance of so-called "scientific management" schemes.

In all fairness Gen. Crozier ought to present his views to an audience of workers. Should he be willing to deliver his lecture we feel sure organized labor would furnish him with an appreciative audience who, even though they differ with him, would treat him with the respect due his office.

Perhaps one of the worst tendencies of the "scientific management" scheme is that toward specialization. The systems are based upon the theory that promotes general specialization in all industries. And it need be stated here that specialization in industry is different to specialization in the professions. In the latter, specialization means a general knowledge of all branches of the profession and the mastership of a particular branch. In industry the specialization of the workers means that the workers are assigned constantly to the work to do thousands of times over and over again each and every day and without the slightest knowledge of any other part of the trade or industry.

"Scientific management" makes ideals of workmanship and craftsmanship impossible. It is away from ideals of democracy. It serves to promote only a few, and a few selected at the expense of the many. It forces and compels the unwitting to be traitors to humanity in industry and democracy in society. Its spirit, its methods and its purposes are hostile to the spirit of collective bargaining. It has nothing in common with that effort of the workers to associate themselves and to work out their best interests. From all sources comes confirmation of the attitude of trade unionists toward "scientific management."

Undoubtedly, one of the purposes of this specialization is to make the workers more dependent. As their training is narrow, they fit into few places and are less adaptable. This condition is reflected in the spirit of the men.

In one part of his address, speaking of the men employed in the arsenals, Gen. Crozier said: "The men do not wish to strike when they know that their places can be filled." No more truthful and cynical utterance could be made. The same truism and cynicism could be applied to any people suffering from tyranny and injustice in any form. If the workers organize, their purpose they have in making any effort to secure relief from wrongs and injustice and the attainment of freedom, can be thwarted, it takes the heart out of them. That is just what workers would be willing to strike for their rights as it is in other fields of human aspirations.

Two committees of congress have investigated the subject of "scientific management" and particularly the Taylor system as it existed in the United States arsenals. On the first committee served two men who are now members of President Wilson's cabinet—Secretary of Labor Wilson and Secretary of Commerce Redfield. That committee made a report upon the Taylor system condemning principles upon which it was based and the effects that it had upon the workmen. One statement from their report is in itself sufficient to discredit the entire scheme:

"By the stop-watch you may be able to determine the time in which a piece of work can be done, but you do not thereby alone determine the length of time in which it ought to be done.

"The claim that the operations of any machine can be made with a reasonable degree of accuracy, because all of the elements can be taken into consideration in making the computation, a machine is an inanimate thing—it has no life, no brain, no sentiment, and no place in the social order. With a workman it is different. He is a living, moving, sentient, social being; he is entitled to all the rights, duties, opportunities, and respectful consideration given to other men.

"He would be less than a man if he did not resent the inference that he is a machine which deals with him in the same way as a beast of burden or an inanimate machine."

PRINTERS MAKE GAINS.

Indianapolis, Nov. 20.—Secretary-Treasurer Hays, of the International Typographical union, announces the following recent gains:

Dayton, Ohio, three years' contract, with $22.50 per week for day work the first year; $23.50 the second year, and $24 the third year. The night rate is $25.50 first year; $26.50 second, and $27 third. The union also secures control of apprentices with a 5-year term.

Sapulpa, Okla., increases wages $2 per week for foremen, operators and floormen, and $2.50 for machinist.

Sioux City, Iowa, board of arbitration has ruled that after June 1, next year, wages shall be increased $1 a week for a period of two years.

Perth Amboy, N. J., secures three-year contract with an increase of 50 cents per week each year.

Ithaca, N. Y., secures $16 a week this year and $17 next year. The secretary writes: "Twelve years ago we were working 16 hours a day for $30 a week."

Syracuse, N. Y., increases wages of job printers $1.50 a week.

WILL CUT LIABILITY RATES

Harrisburg, Pa., Nov. 20.—The state insurance fund, which manages the state workmen's compensation insurance, has officially announced that rates will be 10 per cent less than the insurance rate manual.

The manual, which will be the standard for private concerns, has not been published, but the state declared that regardless of these figures, it will cut them 10 per cent.

Officers of the state insurance fund say they can reduce rates 10 per cent below those charged by private concerns because the state will not have to pay on agents' commissions or dividends for stockholders.

There is also the advantage to the subscribers in the state fund," say officers, "that there will be no contingent liability to assessments. The purpose of the act was to make the payment of the premium the sole liability to subscribers, and no assessments will be levied in any case, as there is not one word in the act creating the liability of subscribers for any or by implication suggests the right of assessments."

The 10 per cent reduction means that the state fund will not remain inactive while hostile manufacturers and private compensation companies war against the compensation act. Instead, the state officials propose showing manufacturers it is safer and more economical to insure with the fund.

FARMERS FAVOR RESTRICTION

San Francisco, Nov. 20.—In an address to the A. F. of L. convention, H. H. Peters, fraternal delegate from the farmers' national conference, told the unionists of the agreement between agriculturists in restriction of immigration and strict exclusion of Chinese and Japanese coolie labor because "if the doors of the Pacific are thrown open white men will be driven from the farms." Other planks favored by the farmers, said the speaker, include parcel post, rural credits and direct legislation.

FREIGHT HANDLERS RETURN.

Boston, Nov. 20.—Freight handlers on the Boston & Albany and the Boston & Maine railroads have returned to work after several satisfactory conferences with officials. All attempts to adjust differences between freight handlers and the New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad have failed. The Boston & Maine freight handlers struck Oct. 21 for better working conditions. Later the other roads became involved.

PLUMBERS' CONTRACT SIGNED.

Dallas, Tex., Nov. 20.—Plumbers and steamfitters have signed an agreement with the Master Plumbers' association which is declared to establish higher standards than heretofore in the relations between the two parties. The workers have secured several betterments in their working conditions.

STEEL CABS PROTECT LIFE.

Salida, Col., Nov. 20.—Two Pullmans and a dining car of a Denver and Rio Grande passenger train rolled down a 100-foot embankment in the Royal Gorge, Arkansas river. Twenty persons were slightly injured, it is stated. The steel cars saved scores from death.

A. F. OF L. REFERRED TO AS "DEMOCRACY'S FIRING LINE"

Washington, Nov. 20.—The Bulletin of this city, in an editorial on the American Federation of Labor, refers to this organization as "Democracy's Firing Line," and says:

"The American Federation of Labor has all of the virtues and most of the defects which go with a position on the firing line of democratic progress. It is partly a bread-and-butter organization, striving for an immediate increase in the welfare of its members, and it is partly a revolutionary movement, aiming at the conquest by the workers of the supreme power to which their numbers and their services entitle them. It contains as many conflicting opinions and policies as two million averages men can comfortably hold. It is like any chance grouping of two million men and women, part idealism, part materialism, part wisdom, part unwisdom. It is weakened by jealousy, ambition and selfishness, and it is strengthened by being, in the last analysis, essentially right.

"The first thing to recognize in the labor-union movement is that it is a natural product of industrial conditions operating upon the ordinary man. The same industrial forces which created the capitalist and the employer created the labor organization. Labor unions do not yet cover the whole field of industry, as they ought to do, but so far as they go they maintain a kind of balance of power. They are a competitive theory of industry this generation has set against that of last generation, an advance over the former system of setting class against class.

"The interests of labor and capital are not identical. The careful organization of the one against the other is sufficient proof of a conflict of interests. The labor movement represents an encroachment upon the freedom, and ultimately upon the profits, of capital; just as the capitalistic movement, unchecked, is a movement upon the freedom and well-being of labor. But the two do not prevent them from having common interests, chief among which is the interest each has in maintaining industry. Nor should it prevent them from understanding that such antagonism as exists between them is largely the result of accidents of birth and fortune. Each is composed largely of decent men, concerned in political campaigns.

"In securing the passage of just laws it has done much already. Its central fight is the fight, not alone of the working people of today, but of all persons, capitalists or laborers, rich or poor, union or anti-union, who plan to bring children into the world, and want a better and more democratic world in which to leave them."

WHEELING BUTCHERS STRIKE.

Wheeling, W. Va., Nov. 20.—About 250 members of the Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen are on a strike order to enforce a 10 per cent wage increase. Employers agreeing about 150 butchers have signed the scale.

The just demand of these workers is known by Editor Gompers of the Wheeling Majority, who says:

"To escape pneumonia they have to wear boots at the wet stools that formerly cost $3.25 and wore six months, now cost $5 and wear three months. The meat inspection system has worked a hardship upon the men in that it has caused them to have more changes of working clothing without extra compensation. All have to provide extra clothing for the week's work, some of them several times a day. In the same day men will work in the cold storage room for a time with a temperature of 32 degrees, wearing several thicknesses of clothing, and then go to work at work so hot that they must strip. Between changing clothes and the consequent cost of paying more to work and live, they are justified in asking the small increase they have asked, which will now from $2 to $3 for nine hours. Few get $3 in the packing houses."

MUST PAY PREVAILING RATES.

New York, Nov. 20.—Painters' union No. 9, through their attorney, has succeeded in having the city hold up several contracts awarded to a contracting firm that painted public school buildings. The law requires that prevailing wages be paid to men employed on municipal work. The firm violated this statute and with many others has been compelled to pay the attorneys. Because of the precedent it has established, the decision is considered a far-reaching one.

TAILORS INCREASE WAGES.

New Haven, Conn., Nov. 20.—Members of the Journeymen Tailors' union, employed in the bushelling department of the large shops here, have been granted wage increases as follows: Pressmen, $18 and up; former rates were $16 a week. Tailors, $16 and up; former rates were $12, $13, and $14 a week. Female helpers, $10 and up; former rates were $8 and $9. This union is nearly 100 per cent organized.

AN OBSERVING IOWA EDITOR.

Des Moines, Iowa, Nov. 20.—Discussing the burning of workers in New York fire traps, the editor of the Register and Leader says:

"It would be too great an imposition upon the owners of mills and factories to expect them to safeguard the lives of workers. Property before lives is the accepted doctrine, and not in New York alone."

UNIONISTS AID THE BLIND.

Chicago, Nov. 20.—Through the efforts of the Broom Makers' union state authorities have taken charge of blind broom makers at the Illinois industrial home. Under the new arrangement they will make one dozen brooms per day less and receive the same wages they formerly did.

WAITRESSES DEMAND MORE.

Boston, Nov. 20.—Waitresses' union protests against a wage scale that forces them to depend on tips for an existence. A demand for higher wages will be made on employers. The union will continue its organizing campaign that success may be assured.

STATE TO URGE "SAFETY FIRST."

Sacramento, Cal., Nov. 20.—The state industrial accidents commission has issued a series of "catchy" phrases intended to impress upon both employers and employes the necessity for "safety first" in industry. In a bulletin just issued, the commission says:

"Don't kid about safety—you may be the goat.

"There are thousands of ways to lose your fingers—keep them.

"Carelessness spells safety last."

The commission has the power to draft and enforce safety laws. Joint boards, consisting of employers and employes, are assisting the commission in this work, and a united effort is being made to reduce the number of industrial accidents and fatalities in this state. General safety orders already agreed to provide for the safeguarding of gears, belts, set screws, sprockets, flywheels, grinding wheels, ladders, stairways, platforms and runways, swinging doors, passages, keys and key seats, floor openings, hoistways, conveyors and many other sources of danger which are common throughout the industrial world.

After the first of the year employers will be obliged to comply with the regulations for the protection of their employes, and the employes themselves will be under obligations to study and practice co-operate in the prevention of accidents.

CHILDREN'S LAWS OF 1915.

Washington, Nov. 20.—Forty-five state and territorial legislatures met since the congress of the United States in 1915 passed laws affecting children, according to the children's bureau of the United States department of labor, which has just completed its survey of such legislation during the current year. Special reference is made to the impressive bulk of children's laws and to the number of commissions appointed to study and prepare bills for future legislation.

A few of the 45 states made notable advances. Alabama, for example, whose legislature meets only once in four years, established a new child labor law, a compulsory school attendance law, an excellent desertion and nonsupport law and a state-wide pension law. Florida remodelled its treatment of juvenile delinquents, recognized the principle of compulsion, passed a mothers' pension, the model vital statistics law, and appointed two of the state commissions already reported on. Kansas established an industrial commission to regulate hours, wages and conditions of work for women and minors, and a division of child hygiene in the state board of health; it also enacted a mothers' pension law and a model pension law. New Jersey and Wyoming passed comprehensive acts relating to the care of dependent children. Pennsylvania carefully drafted laws relating to child labor and vocational education.

WHY NEW YORK VOTED "NO."

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 20.—William Marion Reedy, in Reedy's Mirror, gives these reasons for the defeat of New York's constitution at the recent election:

"A lot of highbrows, dazed by the defeat of the constitution at the election for New York, are wondering why it happened. There's no wonder about it. The constitution was defeated because it ended because its supposed progressive provisions gave the people no direct vote in government. Its home rule for cities was a fake. It removed taxation entirely from all anything like popular control, and it put the voter no power to check the growth of the privileged interests. The document was not definite in its provisions as to important matter. And it left everything too wide open to judicial interpretation. No concession was made to the principle of direct legislation. Wherever the people had any power under the instrument the power was difficult to exercise and could be nullified after exercise. The new constitution was defeated because it was an attempt to make people stand still in a moving universe."

OKLAHOMA UNIONISTS ALERT.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Nov. 20.—Acting upon the special report of governor the state legislature will be called early next January, officers of the state federation of labor have issued a warning to Oklahoma unionists to guard against convict labor laws amendments. State Secretary Hall declared, recently, the unorganized workers in an effort to emulate organized labor, have become solitary hands. It is now claimed that the law is to be amended on the theory that labor's hands are tied. An American who "make this convict-operated mine a model for others to follow."

FIRST AID EFFICIENCY.

Washington, Nov. 20.—President Wilson has appointed a board of first aid standardization, in compliance with a request made by the conference of American surgeons on first aid, held in this city last summer. It is proposed to standardize first aid packages and equipment of all sorts, means of transporting and handling wounded and first aid instruction among civilians, particularly those allied with industrial plants.

VALUE OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Des Moines, Iowa, Nov. 20.—"The development of the state industrially, and the home of its citizens intellectually and spiritually, depends upon education of the child," is the statement issued by the state superintendent of Public Instruction Deyoe before the Iowa State Teachers' association.

Upon the conference of educators upon the broad principles of the public school system. It is the one institution where all meet on common ground."

TO HONOR MERGENTHALER.

Baltimore, Nov. 20.—The Typographical union has appointed a committee to consider the erection of a memorial tablet to Ottmar Mergenthaler, inventor of the typesetting machine. The union declared in favor of organization in the art of typesetting made in America, second only in importance to that of printing itself. The Gutenberg press was devised in Baltimore by Ottmar Mergenthaler."

PITTSBURGH SWEEPS CLEAN.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Nov. 20.—The Broom Makers' union has organized every shop in Pittsburgh. The agitation of organized labor against convict labor, which resulted in the passage of a law by the last legislature, is ending in practice, is reasonable, in a great measure, for the gains made by local broom makers.

R. R. CLERKS' STRIKE OFF.

Detroit, Nov. 20.—The strike of Michigan Central railroad clerks has been settled. Federal and state conciliators assisted the interested parties in reaching an agreement. The strike was called on a time limit basis of demands, and it is stated that the strikers have made substantial gains.

CHILDREN'S LAWS OF 1915.

Washington, Nov. 20.—Forty-five state and territorial legislatures met since the congress of the United States in 1915 passed laws affecting children, according to the children's bureau of the United States department of labor, which has just completed its survey of such legislation during the current year. Special reference is made to the impressive bulk of children's laws and to the number of commissions appointed to study and prepare bills for future legislation.

A few of the 45 states made notable advances. Alabama, for example, whose legislature meets only once in four years, established a new child labor law, a compulsory school attendance law, an excellent desertion and nonsupport law and a state-wide pension law. Florida remodelled its treatment of juvenile delinquents, recognized the principle of compulsion, passed a mothers' pension, the model vital statistics law, and appointed two of the state commissions already reported on. Kansas established an industrial commission to regulate hours, wages and conditions of work for women and minors, and a division of child hygiene in the state board of health; it also enacted a mothers' pension law and a model pension law. New Jersey and Wyoming passed comprehensive acts relating to the care of dependent children. Pennsylvania carefully drafted laws relating to child labor and vocational education.

WHY NEW YORK VOTED "NO."

St. Louis, Mo., Nov. 20.—William Marion Reedy, in Reedy's Mirror, gives these reasons for the defeat of New York's constitution at the recent election:

"A lot of highbrows, dazed by the defeat of the constitution at the election for New York, are wondering why it happened. There's no wonder about it. The constitution was defeated because it ended because its supposed progressive provisions gave the people no direct vote in government. Its home rule for cities was a fake. It removed taxation entirely from all anything like popular control, and it put the voter no power to check the growth of the privileged interests. The document was not definite in its provisions as to important matter. And it left everything too wide open to judicial interpretation. No concession was made to the principle of direct legislation. Wherever the people had any power under the instrument the power was difficult to exercise and could be nullified after exercise. The new constitution was defeated because it was an attempt to make people stand still in a moving universe."

OKLAHOMA UNIONISTS ALERT.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Nov. 20.—Acting upon the special report of governor the state legislature will be called early next January, officers of the state federation of labor have issued a warning to Oklahoma unionists to guard against convict labor laws amendments. State Secretary Hall declared, recently, the unorganized workers in an effort to emulate organized labor, have become solitary hands. It is now claimed that the law is to be amended on the theory that labor's hands are tied. An American who "make this convict-operated mine a model for others to follow."

FIRST AID EFFICIENCY.

Washington, Nov. 20.—President Wilson has appointed a board of first aid standardization, in compliance with a request made by the conference of American surgeons on first aid, held in this city last summer. It is proposed to standardize first aid packages and equipment of all sorts, means of transporting and handling wounded and first aid instruction among civilians, particularly those allied with industrial plants.

VALUE OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Des Moines, Iowa, Nov. 20.—"The development of the state industrially, and the home of its citizens intellectually and spiritually, depends upon education of the child," is the statement issued by the state superintendent of Public Instruction Deyoe before the Iowa State Teachers' association.

Upon the conference of educators upon the broad principles of the public school system. It is the one institution where all meet on common ground."

TO HONOR MERGENTHALER.

Baltimore, Nov. 20.—The Typographical union has appointed a committee to consider the erection of a memorial tablet to Ottmar Mergenthaler, inventor of the typesetting machine. The union declared in favor of organization in the art of typesetting made in America, second only in importance to that of printing itself. The Gutenberg press was devised in Baltimore by Ottmar Mergenthaler."

PITTSBURGH SWEEPS CLEAN.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Nov. 20.—The Broom Makers' union has organized every shop in Pittsburgh. The agitation of organized labor against convict labor, which resulted in the passage of a law by the last legislature, is ending in practice, is reasonable, in a great measure, for the gains made by local broom makers.

R. R. CLERKS' STRIKE OFF.

Detroit, Nov. 20.—The strike of Michigan Central railroad clerks has been settled. Federal and state conciliators assisted the interested parties in reaching an agreement. The strike was called on a time limit basis of demands, and it is stated that the strikers have made substantial gains.

FT. WAYNE STRIKE CASE THROWN OUT OF COURT

Indianapolis, Nov. 20.—Judge Anderson of the federal court has thrown the so-called "Ft. Wayne strikes case" out of court, on the ground that the case should be heard by a state court.

The proceedings were started by a Philadelphia trust company which holds bonds of the Ft. Wayne and Northern Indiana traction company, whose motormen and conductors are striking to enforce their right to organize. The street car company also conducts a lighting plant in competition with the Ft. Wayne municipal lighting plant. To show their sympathy for the strikers, citizens who had formerly patronized the company's plant, began patronizing the municipal plant, and the eastern trust company asked Judge Anderson to issue an injunction against Mayor Bossy and other Ft. Wayne officials, who were charged with conspiring to injure the business of the company and make payment on bonds impossible.

Judge Anderson has dismissed the plea on the ground that the street car company, which was not made a party to the suit, had both a necessary and proper party to the bill of complaint. This means that the case, if it is tried again, must be tried in a state court. Judge Hosey charges that the injunction proceedings was an attempt to put the Ft. Wayne plant out of business. He said:

"We have had nothing to do with the real cause, the street car strike, further than to make an appeal to the company and to the strikers.

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Recently the company asked the mayor to [illegible] point special police to protect its property and strikebreakers from "possible" violence. The city official answered that as the company had refused to arbitrate and to study and prepare a policy, he did not favor using the public's money as requested, and that the company could pay for its own police service, as provided by law.

ELECTRICAL AGE IS NEXT.

Chicago, Nov. 20.—Electricity is changing the face of the earth, and the home, just as radically as steam changed it, declared Dr. Steinmetz, electrical engineer, in an address here recently.

"Steam built up our great cities with their congestion and slums. Electricity will break them down and spread the population evenly over the continent, because electricity can be transmitted anywhere where simple mechanical means. Steam must be used where generated, but where there is a large labor supply," said Dr. Steinmetz.

"With full electrical development, the labor supply will be the right at the factory door. It can be moved cheaply and quickly morning and evening. There will be no necessity to bring people to where the power can be produced the cheapest, as in the steam factory, but power can be carried to the people over the wires.

"The factories will then go where the land is cheapest. Electricity will run errands in the home.

"I am afraid that is standing in the way. But the high cost is due to the limited use of the electrical motor rather than to the cost of electricity. It is as simple as an alarm clock and should and would be as cheap if it were used generally. It is a question of cheap distribution. The more we use the lower the cost. There is nothing, however, that will supplant steam and hand power, just as steam once supplanted hand power."

HOW TO SAVE BABIES' LIVES

Philadelphia, Nov. 20.—It is easy to check infant mortality—raise the wages of fathers, was the advice of Sherman C. Kingsley of Chicago before the American Association for Study and Prevention of Infant Mortality.

While other speakers advanced various theories, the Chicago man submitted the thought:

"It is a fundamental truth it is useless to tell a poor mother how to give her baby proper care when the home and material conditions are such that the child's father can earn a living wage. Life and health are conserved when it is at its best for communities in general. Figures show that babies whose families live in homes above the line of the poor survive of those who live in four, and that the infant mortality is less than one-half when $10 a week has about half the chance of life one whose father earns twice that sum."

RUBBER STRIKE SETTLED.

Trenton, N. J., Nov. 20.—The strike against the Essex rubber plant has been settled, through the efforts of federal conciliators. The workers are members of the Soft Rubber Workers' union, affiliated to the American Federation of Labor. Unbearable working conditions and low wages was responsible for the walkout. The company has agreed to abolish docking and fining systems and guarantees a minimum wage for all employes, whether by day or piece work. There will be no discrimination because of union membership, and the right of appeal to adjust grievances is recognized by the management.

JURISDICTION DISPUTES.

Sydney, New South Wales, Nov. 20.—Australian workers call their jurisdiction disputes overlapping, and this question was the subject of an important conference called by the Illawarra Labor Council. The conference was composed of the Sydney Labor Council it was voted that:

"This council is opposed to any form of compulsory service of life, health and limb that does not, first of all, bring wealth under conscription."

GLASS BOTTLE OFFICIAL DEAD.

Toledo, Nov. 20.—William Launer, secretary of the Glass Bottle Blowers' association, is dead, as the result of a fall. Launer was elected secretary of the Glass Bottle blowers in 1901 and held that office continuously ever since.

WOULD ENJOIN STRIKERS.

Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 20.—The Dunlap Manufacturing company and the Modern Tool Die and Machine company have filed petitions in common pleas court for an injunction against striking machinists. The plaintiffs assure the court that they have employed Gutenberg agency "to injure the business of the companies."

"CONSCRIPT WEALTH FIRST."

Sydney, New South Wales, Nov. 20.—Australian trade unionists do not favor conscription of men for the European war, but they do favor conscription of wealth. The Sydney Labor Council it was voted that:

"This council is opposed to any form of compulsory service of life, health and limb that does not, first of all, bring wealth under conscription."